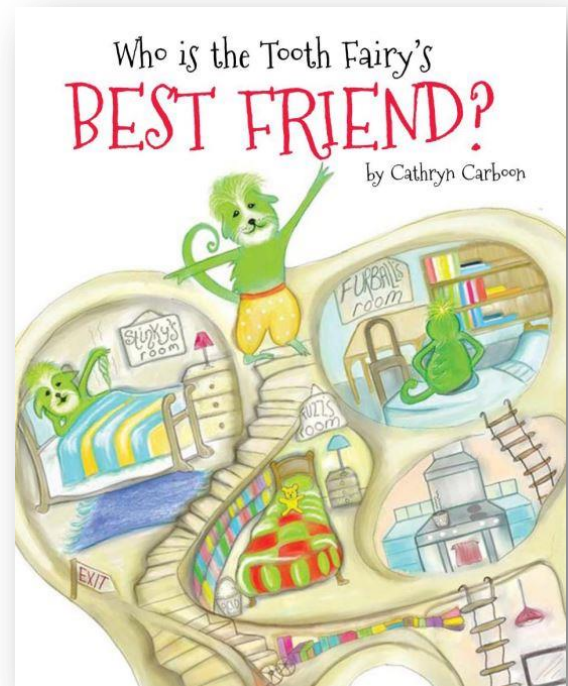




## **‘Who is the Tooth Fairy’s Best Friend?’ You may be surprised!**

A newly published children’s picture book titled ‘Who is the Tooth Fairy’s Best Friend?’ was launched at the Dental Hygienists Association of Australia’s (DHAA) National Symposium in Adelaide in October 2017, with 500 people in attendance. This was followed by a school book launch at Homebush West Public School. The book was officially launched by the Hon. Craig Laundy MP, Federal Member for Reid and Professor Chris Peck, Dean of Sydney University Faculty of Dentistry. Sixteen Bachelor of Oral Health students from Sydney University did a simultaneous book reading session with 292 Kinder to Grade 2 children across 12 classes.



The book was written by Cathryn Carboon, a dental hygienist with over 30 years’ dental experience and a Master of Health Promotion. It engages young children and their families in learning about caring for their teeth and discovering the magic of fluoride for good oral health. The book contains a beautifully illustrated story, a wisdom tooth tips page, glossary and an information page for teachers, parents and carers. The book was illustrated, designed and produced by Brolly Books, an independent Australian publishing house established in 1997.

The book was published through funding from a DOOLEY’S NSW ClubGRANT, a DHAA community oral health grant and the Carevan Foundation. ‘Who is the Tooth Fairy’s Best Friend?’ has two full-colour, 24 page, paperback formats, which are included in the National Library of Australia book collection (Bib ID:7501006).

**The BIG book** ISBN 9781925386615 (34cm x 43cm) is perfect for circle time at libraries and reading out loud in groups for Kindergarten and Grades 1 & 2. Children can take part in the group reading to develop their literacy skills; dress up in fairy and tooth troll costumes and have fun acting out the book’s characters. The BIG book is used to start group conversations around the magic of fluoride for good oral health.

**The standard size book** ISBN 9781925386592 (21cm x 26cm) is available for children to share with their family. The colourful text and rhyming pattern enables collaborative reading with parents or siblings and extends the BIG book group-based learning into the family home.

## Read aloud BIG Book: class or library group session plan

- **Read the whole story first!**
- Get the children to think about the different characters in the story: Tooth Fairy, Fluoride Fairy & Tooth Trolls: Stinky, Furball & Fuzz
- Choose children to play each role
- Get children to put on costumes provided (with help from teachers or parents)
  - Tooth Fairy: rainbow wings & large toothbrush
  - Fluoride Fairy: coloured wings, star wand & tiara (made of fluoride crystals!)
  - Tooth Trolls: acid buckets
- Alternatively, invite children to come dressed in their own fairy costumes
- **Read through the story again.** The children can act out the story and say the words in large coloured print in the book. The narrator says all the other story lines
- Wrap-up session, discuss main themes and the 3 ways to get fluoride magic (toothpaste, tap water, fluoride varnish)
- **Share photos of the book reading on social media** (with parental consent)
- Use the twitter handle #toothfairysBFF to spread the word about fluoride magic!

ACTOR	WORDS TO SAY OUT LOUD	ACTION
Tooth Fairy	I like teeth	Crunch on carrots
Tooth Trolls	We like making holes in kid's teeth	Pour bucket of acid over children
All group	But tooth trolls don't like.....	Parents and all children say together
Tooth Fairy	Toothbrushes	Brush the tooth trolls with the large toothbrush
All group	But tooth trolls really don't like.....	Parents and all children say together
Tooth Trolls	Healthy Foods	
All group	But tooth trolls really, really, don't like.....	Parents and all children say together
Tooth Trolls	The Tooth Fairy's Best Friend	
Fluoride Fairy	That's me	Twirl around & wave wand over tooth trolls
All group	EXTRA strong	Show arm muscles
Tooth Trolls	Snoring noise	Tilt head to rest on hands, close eyes and snore!
All group	Brush, brush, brush, spit, spit, spit	Toothbrushing & spitting action